The Times of Peace
PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PIPESTONE, MN



Greetings Church Family,
As I prepared to write this article for our November Newsletter, I took a moment to look back. I looked back on what I wrote about last year. And what I found was that I wrote about to be thankful…we have to first of all be grateful.

November is the month that we celebrate Thanksgiving here in the United States. You are aware, I hope, that the rest of the world does not celebrate this holiday with us. This holiday is uniquely ours, which my eldest son learned when he was living abroad in Belgium for seven years and my daughter learned as she studied abroad in Chile over the second half of the year. We all know the history behind this holiday…at least I hope you do. If not, grab a history book and read about it, it's a great story.

What I am also preparing for as I write this article, is a week of what is called Renewal Recovery in the world of pastors. This is a time to step away, to catch my breath, to recharge and refill, and in the stillness listen for the Spirit to speak to me and pour out into me - so that I can once again pour out. When discussing what I would be doing, or not doing for those five days and nights, I was asked: 1) Where are you going/staying? 2) Which devotion book are you taking with you? 3) Did you pack a new journal and pen? 4) Are you sure you can do this (being an extravert), being all alone for that many days and nights in solitude? All good questions and there were more, but those were the most frequently asked.

I have four books packed of four different genres as well. One of the books I have packed was recommended to me while sitting on someone's front porch, sharing coffee and great conversation. This person inquired if I was familiar with the writings of author Wendy Speake. This author as written *The 40-Day Sugar Fast – Where Physical Detox Meets Spiritual Transformation* and *The 40-Day Feast – Taste and See the Goodness of God's World*. Speake's latest writing which has arrived just in time for my time away is entitled *A Sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving – 30 Days of Rejoicing in God's Goodness*. The spark for the writing of this book was a time of spiritual dryness in the author's life. She was encouraged by her therapist to take some time and spend it with people she loved. On a flight to California, she met a woman sitting in the seat next to her who was a part of an annual revival in the community that she lived. She shared that every year they "asked" God for guidance for the revival, but the previous year they practiced "an ask fast." Rather than "asking" God to provide, they "praised" God for all the blessings that they had/have experienced during those previous revivals. Upon departing the plane, Speake asked her newfound friend, "if I were to memorize one passage of praise, where would you have me start?" and the reply was - Psalm 100.

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
2 Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!
3 Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his;[a] we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!
5 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

What would it look like this November if we practiced an "ask fast?" For thirty days (the entire month of November – which has 30 days) if we would fast from "asking" for anything in our prayers and instead focus on "giving God" our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving?

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Can you see what a gift "fasting from asking" would and could be if we shift our focus from "what we want - to the One who knows what we need?" Speake asks what would it look like if we – "instead of presenting our petitions, we proclaim our praise - and in so - doing we profess our faith in God." Suggesting that we rescript our requests as follows:

- "God, I need…" becomes "God, You know my needs."
- "God, heal me…" becomes "Lord, You are the Great Physician."
- "God, pull me out of the pit of despair…" becomes "God of all comfort, how kind of You to meet me in the depths of my depression."
- "God, save my kids and grandkids…" becomes "Your arm is not too short to save my children or grandchildren."
- "God, redeem…" becomes the simple boast "Redeemer God!"
- "God, I'm worried about this generation…" becomes "You are the God of every generation, and I eagerly anticipate Your saving grace on display."

Writing that this is what it looks like to reframe our requests…and turns our begging into bold and brave belief! Why not believe God and trust Him with all that concerns us?

Can you see what a gift "fasting from asking" is when you shift your focus from "what you want" to "the one who knows what you need?" Can you place your complete trust in the One who is the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega, the Creator of the Universe – can you place your complete trust that He will provide?

Fasting is setting down something ordinary – to receive something truly extraordinary.
So……I encourage to purchase a journal if you do not already own one – and beginning on November 1 start "fasting from asking" and begin "a Sacrificed of Praise and Thanksgiving" to the One who knows your every need. And then, conclude each day with this prompt: "Lord God, turn my pleading petition into a proclamation of praise!"

Be grateful for all you have been blessed with and give thanks to the One who gives.
Happy Thanksgiving to one and all,
Pastor Velda

Pastor Velda's Schedule for November 2026

Wednesday mornings at 8 am - Pipestone County Pastoral Prayer Breakfast
First and third Wednesday of the month - 10:30 am FPC Morning Coffee Group
11:30 am Kiwanis Meeting
November 1 - All Saints Worship Service at FPC and PUMC
November 3 - 5 pm - Election Day Turkey Dinner at PUMC
November 5 - 11 am LLP Covenant Group meeting in Slayton
November 7 - 10:30 am - Funeral at Peace UMC
November 8 - 9 am - Service of Confirmation at PUMC
10:30 am - FPC Congregational Meeting following worship service
November 10 - 8:30 am - PC Ministerial Business Meeting
November 11 - 6 pm - PUMC Trustees Meeting
November 14 - 11 am - Funeral at Hartquist Funeral Chapel
November 15 - 9 am - PUMC - Baptism of Kora VanderPlaats - daughter of Jessie and Kim
4 pm - PUMC Charge Conference at Slayton UMC
5-7 pm - Turkey Bingo at FPC
November 16 - 9 am - Peace Quilters at PUMC
4:30 pm - PUMC Leadership Council Meeting
November 17 - 10 am - Presbytery Mentorship Meeting in Luverne
6 pm - PC Human Rights Commission Meeting
November 19 - 10 am - UWF - Peace UMC
1:30 pm - Communion at Ridgeview
November 23 - 6 pm - FPC Session Meeting
November 29 - First Sunday of Advent - 9 am - Worship at Peace UMC
5 pm First Sunday of Advent Worship at FPC with Lighting of the Tree and Soup Potluck following



Paving the Road to Faith

A Capital Campaign

Peace United Methodist Church is running a campaign to raise funds. We are currently working on paving the east driveway of the church. We also will need to replace an air conditioning unit (30 years old) used for cooling the sanctuary. The combined cost of these two projects is projected to be $25,000.



Received as of October 25, 2026
$18,376

As a bonus, we have a church member who has pledged an additional $20,000 **IF** we meet the goal of $25,000 by January 1, 2027. This gives us an added incentive as well as a goal!

Checks should be made to: PUMC Trustees and a note on the memo line for Capital Campaign.

Checks can be mailed to: PUMC; Box 26; Pipestone, MN 56164

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 LeRoy & Elaine Misfeldt **Worship 9:00 am** **All Saints Service**	2	3 **5 pm Annual Turkey Drive-Thru Dinner**	4 Stephanie Backer	5 **7:00 pm Church Clean-up**	6 Landon Quist Sara Schulze-Durych Steven Schulze, Jr.	7
8 **Worship 9:00 am** **Confirmation Service** 	9 Jessica Miller **9 am Peace Quilters** **11 am Worship Committee**	10 **5:30 pm Prayer Shawl**	11 Kinnick Schulze **6 pm Trustees** **JAM 6 pm at FPC** **Confirmation 7 pm at FPC**	12 Marian Carstens	13	14
15 Anita Johson **Worship 9:00 am** **Baptism of Kora Vander Plaats**	16 **9 am Peace Quilters** **4:30 p.m. Leadership Meeting**	17 Keith & Ruth Kluis **5:30 pm Prayer Shawl**	18 **JAM 6 pm at FPC** **Confirmation 7 pm at FPC**	19	20	21 Marilyn Wabeke Pamela Schulze
22 **Worship 9:00 am**	23	24 **5:30 pm Prayer Shawl**	25 **No JAM or Confirmation Thanksgiving**	26 **Happy Thanksgiving**	27	28
29 Valerie Klumper **Worship 9:00 am**	30		Birthdays Anniversaries **Church Events** **JAM**	**If you do not see your name(s) listed on the calendar for birthdays and anniversaries, please contact the church office so we can update our calendar with your information.**		

MANY THANKS!

Thank you, thank you for the gift card to Rooted and Fruited for Pastor Appreciation Month. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.
Pastor Velda



September 27, 2026 we celebrated the baptism of Bronx George Wabeke. Son of Preston and Vanessa Wabeke. It's always a joy to have young families in the church and celebrate the birth of a new child in Christ.



On October 12 a celebration of life was held for Robert "Bob" Backer. Bob was a man who loved to cook, fish, and build things. Our sympathy goes out to his wife Jeanne, daughters Carrie and Stephanie, and grandson Darius.



Sunday November 1, 2026 we will be commemorating the Saints who have gone home to be with Jesus this past year. We will honor each one with a short reading of their life history and candle-lighting service.

Those we will be commemorating:

Barb Shaffer
Curt Hess
Chuck Draper
Quentin "Swede" Crow
Marlis Jones
David Johnson
Sandy Lopau
Robert Backer



Poinsettias for Christmas

We would like to include poinsettias in decorating the sanctuary for the church for the Christmas season. If you would like to contribute to a poinsettia in honor/memory of a loved one, please have your free will donation to the office by Sunday, December 20 along with your loved one's name.

In honor/Memory of: (circle one)

_____

From

_____

J.A.M – Jesus and Me **2026-2027 Calendar**

Wednesday nights from 6-7pm.

FPC = First Presbyterian Church **PUMC = Peace United Methodist Church**

The Hidden Treasure	
Program Practice	November 11, 2026 – FPC November 18, 2026 – FPC November 25 – No JAM, Thankgiving Break December 2 – FPC December 9 – FPC December 13 – 5 pm JAM Christmas Program at FPC December 16 – Caroling at Ridgeview December 23 – No JAM December 30 – No JAM

The Pearl of Great Price	**January 6 – PUMC**
The Net	January 13 – PUMC
The Barren Fig Tree	January 20 – PUMC January 27 – PUMC
The Lost Sheep	February 3 – FPC February 10 – FPC
The Lost Coin	February 17 – FPC
The Prodigal Son	February 24 – FPC
The Two Debtors	March 3 – PUMC
The Unmerciful Servant	March 10 – PUMC
The Good Servant	March 17 – PUMC
	March 24 – No JAM Easter Break
	March 31 – Singing and Activities at Ridgeview
	April 7 – JAM End of Year Bash - FPC

Ways you can give back to your church!

By USPS:

Peace United Methodist Church; PO Box 26; Pipestone, MN 56164

Auto Giving through your bank:

Set up by the church treasurer in the church office. You will be able to designate the amount and frequency of your donations. All that is required is filling out a form and bringing in a voided check.

Prayerfully consider how **you** can contribute

to the support of our church family!

Peace UMC has a website!
www.peaceumcpipestone.com

Please lift up our shut-ins in your prayers, and please visit them!
You can see Gretchen Blom at Good Samaritan Society of Pipestone and Marilyn Wabeke at Sunrise Manor in Tyler, MN.

Communion Sundays
November 8
(Confirmation Sunday)
December 13
December 24 at 6:00 p.m.
All are welcome!



UWF meets Thursday, December 17, at 10 am

United Women in Faith



Thursday, November 5 at 7 pm

Peace UMC now has a sign-up list for various areas of the church building that you can specify and commit to cleaning. Please see the sign-up sheet for further details.



CHANGE FOR CHANGE

$651.90
Received October 2026

To benefit
Pipestone Area Schools for Winter Gear

November Change for Change

To Benefit
Pipestone Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministries





2026 Giving Goal
$125,303

Needed Each Month
$10,442

Received in October
$8,105.52

Leadership Council Meeting
October 19, 2026
4:30 pm
Present:
Steve Schulze, Chuck Vaux, and Jan Wussow

Pastor's Report:
Interaction with parishioners - Email - 5, In-person visits - 25, Telephone Calls - 55, Text Messages - 57.
Attended - Monthly PC Ministerial Meeting and 1 PC Pastor Prayer Breakfast.
Community Involvement - attended - 1 Kiwanis Meeting
Mission - Peace Quilters - 1 and Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2
Attended Presbytery Mentoring Meeting as well as UMC LLP Covenant Group Meeting.
Moderated FPC Session Meeting and PUMC Leadership Council
UMC Parish Meetings - 2
Confirmation Class - 3
Lead Communion at Ridgeview Assisted Living with 13 total present.
Participated in FPC Wednesday Morning Coffee - 1
Funeral Arrangements - 5, Visitation -1, and Officiated 5 funerals
Attended Boundaries Training for both the Presbytery and UMC

Treasurer's Report:
All bills and apportionments are paid to date**.**
A CD is coming due at FFM Bank on November 9. We are taking Sandy Lopau off and will need another name for signature. Chuck Vaux made a motion to add Valerie Klumper to the CD. Jan Wussow seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustees Report: Mark Wiese
The Trustees did not meet in October
- The pavement on the east side has been completed.
- Weed spraying has been completed for fall.
- Pater will finish landscaping yet this fall.

Worship Committee Report:
The Worship Committee did not meet in October.

UWF Report
United Women in Faith met on Thursday, October 15 in the Fireside room. We discussed whether we were going to have the bake sale this year. It was decided to skip this year as it is getting very late to plan for it. The major concerns were the date that is 2 days after Thanksgiving and getting enough contributions and help on that date, especially with conflicts with the holiday.

We also made our contributions to various charities from the proceeds of the rummage sale. We are very thankful for all who contributed to it in any way. It was an all-church effort. We gave $200 to each to the following: Food Shelf, Wellness Room at PAS, Flandreau Indian School Chaplaincy, Helping Kids Round First and UMCOR. $100 was also given to Nomads.

Next meeting will be December 17.

Peace Foundation Report:
Mission Report:
Children's Ministry Report:
Shared Ministry Council
Lay Leader Report: